



U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy



Application Content and Merit Review Process

D3 Breakout Session Report-Out

**Solar America Initiative
Technical Exchange Meeting
April 17, 2006**



Application Content Requirements

- Agreement that proposed language is sufficiently flexible (based on large/small or System/Component proposal Classes)
- Need clarity on lab roles, budget and availability.
- Clarify US requirements
- Quarterly reporting by components
- Need flexibility on page limits, e.g., limits per section or TIO, more for “make”, less for “buy”.



Manufacturing Cost Detail

- Need standardized costing formulas or formats (module cost shall include the following components)
- Define standard metrics and ways to measure
- SAM inputs need to be well defined



Merit Review Criteria

- Discrepancy exists between Application Content Requirements and Merit Review Criteria text--Use Application Content Requirements
- Flat plate vs. CPV
 - Discrepancies in availability of O&M data
 - Rating criteria are different (1000W/m² POA vs. 850 W/m² DNI)
- Higher weighting for proposals that address higher impact TIO's
- How does proposed budget fold into review?
- Greater weighting on approach, activities, objectives?
 - Consensus: proposed weighting is about right (Assuming Application text)



Partnership Business Plan

- Clarify Business Plan requirements:
 - Call it Commercialization Plan
 - Better define components needed in proposal
 - Feasibility Plan
 - Marketing Plan
 - Commercialization Plan



Miscellaneous General Comments

- Set target price to a % range of 2015 utility price rather than fixed 2005 \$/kWh range
- Regarding expected 2015 market:
 - DOE should outline target markets broadly (e.g., Roadmap)
 - Proposal should describe target market, expected market share, interim production steps to reach 2015 volume target
- Stage/Gate: 2 reviews over 3 years, including cost and performance



General Comments (Continued)

- Discussed \$/W versus ¢/kWh for measuring progress
 - Consensus: need status of all relevant costs, performance, and reliability issues
 - Proposal should define how progress should be described
- Including specific customers in team may be problematic—shouldn't be penalized for not including
- DOE should host a Teaming bulletin board for folks to offer services, ask for help